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IDEA 0419
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MEMORANDUM FOR: **AFCIG-5**
Headquarters USAF

ATTENTION: **Colonel L. P. Geary**

SUBJECT: **KC-135/KC-97 Support of U-2C**

REFERENCE: **Memorandum to AFCIG-5; Subject:**
KC-135 Support of U-2C; dated
25 May 1961 (IDEA 0271)

1. Due to non-availability of KC-135 tankers to support the IFR program outlined in referenced memorandum, an alternate plan using KC-97's is forwarded. If successful, the plan will enable this Agency to develop plans and a tactical doctrine for future utilization of the U-2C inflight refueling capability.

2. The compatibility of KC-97's and U-2C aircraft appears to be satisfactory. However, prior to starting a KC-97 refueling program it will be necessary to conduct flight tests to check such factors as visibility, turbulence, aircraft control, etc. In order to get qualified assigned pilots as IFR instructors and test pilots they will have to be checked out with KC-135's using procedures established during the flight test phase. This checkout will require approximately four sorties compared with eighteen KC-135 sorties on the previous proposal. The additional tanker sorties would be satisfied by the more available KC-97 tankers.

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3. Required support for proposal:

KC-135	4 Sorties (2 each for 2 instructor pilots)
KC-97	14 Sorties (2 flight testing - 12 checkout of 6 pilots)
KC-135	Instructor pilot for two hours familiarization ground school.
KC-97	Instructor pilot for two hours familiarization ground school.

4. Proficiency training requirements will be developed during this program and will be the subject of a later memorandum.

5. It is requested that this Agency be advised if necessary support can be provided at your earliest opportunity. The same general plan, as outlined previously for coordination between tanker and receiver units, will apply.

FOR THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR (PLANS)

BY: (Signed) Stanley W. Beerli
STANLEY W. BEERLI
Colonel USAF

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DPD/SPB, (21 August 1961)

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